

Assessment Of Ford By Pravda

Moscow

The Communist party newspaper Pravda yesterday made an optimistic assessment of President Ford's first two weeks in office, suggesting that initial nervousness over Richard M. Nixon's sudden departure was rapidly being assuaged.

In a dig at his predecessor, Pravda noted that Mr. Ford is hard at work to solve the problem of inflation, which, it reported, had reached "catastrophic proportions" under Mr. Nixon.

It was the first such direct criticism of Mr. Nixon to appear recently in the Soviet press. While there has been no hesitancy about focusing on American problems, the Soviet press has been careful not to link the former President with them by name.

New York Times